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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Gong et al.

Before the Examiner:
Vo, Lilian

Serial No.: 09/316,754

Group Art Unit: 2127

Filed: May 21, 1999

Title: EFFICIENT SCHEMA FOR
STORING MULTI-VALUE
ATTRIBUTES IN A DIRECTORY
SERVICE BACKING STORE

Intellectual Property Law
IBM Corporation
11400 Burnet Road
Austin, Texas 78758

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

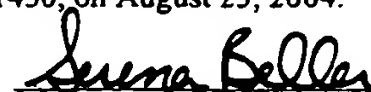
In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of August 13, 2004 (Paper No. 13), having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 13, 2004, please amend the Application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on August 25, 2004.


Signature

Serena Beller
(Printed name of person certifying)

OK to
enter.

LV

9/14/04